

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 1 has been amended and claim 9 has been added. Claims 1-7, and 9 are pending and under consideration.

Using independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites "a filling material with a particle size between 0.1 and 15 microns mixed with particles of a powdered thermosetting resin, then filled in depressions between powdered magnetic particles being said rare earth-transition metal alloy powder on a surface of said magnet." Thus, the magnet body material is filled in the depressions of the magnet body.

On the other hand, Sagawa discloses that the powder material is further forced between the particles of powder, which have already been captured on the resin layer by the striking force. Sagawa, col. 11, ln. 24-32.

Claim 1 further recites that the filling material being fixed when the powdered thermosetting resin mixed therewith is cured. An advantage of this arrangement is that it is possible to easily lead the air in the depression outside, thereby preventing minute cavities which may rust from occurring.

In contrast, Sagawa discloses that the resin layer protrudes, on its side facing the parts, into minute concavities of the parts and achieves an anchoring effect. Sagawa, col. 8, ln. 46-48. The air in the concavities is sealed by the resin layer. However, a minute cavity is formed in the area that the resin has not been sufficiently filled, and the rust may occur in the area.

New claim 9 recites that the filling material and the resin are filled in the depressions by using ball milling. Therefore, it is possible to completely fill the depressions. The Examiner's attention is drawn to page 11 of the present Specification. In contrast, Sagawa teaches that the ball milling is conducted after forming the resin.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.


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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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